

Town Council Meeting: 10 December 2007



Town of Garrett Park
PO Box 84
4600 Waverly Avenue
Garrett Park, MD 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council
Garrett Park Town Hall
10814 Kenilworth Avenue
Garrett Park, MD 20896

MINUTES

Annual Dinner Meeting with Annapolis Delegation: 6:00 PM

Coffee and Desert with Residents: 7:30 PM

Presentations by Annapolis Delegation: 7:45 PM

Regular Meeting Call to Order: Mayor Shawaker called the meeting to order at 8:45 PM. Present were Councilmembers Berry, Hansen, Irons, Mandel, and Wegner. Also present was Town Administrator Pratt, Richard Folkers from the *Bugle*, and a number of Town residents.

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Shawaker asked that the agenda be changed by deleting Town Hall Fees under Action/Discussion, proposing that this topic be included in the Council's development of the FY 2008 budget. Mayor Shawaker further asked that the discussion of the building permit violation at 11306 Rokeby, also under Action/Discussion be taken out of order and taken up as the first business of the meeting as Setback Advisory Committee (SAC) Chair Harry Gordon was leaving on a business trip tomorrow and would like to be home early.

Councilmember Berry **MOVED**

That the agenda be amended as suggested by the Mayor. Councilmember Irons seconded the motion, which was **PASSED** unanimously.

Action/Discussion 1:

- **Building Permit Violations: 11306 Rokeby** – Councilmember Irons asked Harry Gordon to report on the situation with the new home being constructed at 11306 Rokeby Avenue. Mr. Gordon reported that a resident had contacted him regarding possible non-compliance with the issued building permit, and that he had asked Building Inspector Pratt to check this out. Upon inspection by Mr. Pratt on November 26th, it was determined that construction of a room on the top floor did not comply with the permit, exceeding the permitted Floor Area Ratio (FAR). Mr. Gordon reported that the committee had discussed this with Mr. Conlan, the property owner and builder, who had agreed to modify the space so as to bring it into compliance with Garrett Park FAR requirements and the conditions of the Garrett Park building permit, and that the Setback Advisory Committee now considers this matter resolved.

Approved at the 14 January 2008 Council meeting

- Councilmember Berry introduced Mr. Hanson, President of the Garrett Park - White Flint Estates Neighborhood Association who briefed the Council on the White Flint area development proposals. Councilmember Berry noted that there was an estimated increase of 2,500 workers in the area if all development proposals currently being considered went forward, and that the local communities needed to work together to mitigate the impacts this growth would create. There was extended discussion on this matter.

Presentations by Residents

- Resident Peter Benjamin discussed the status of the VIEW Engineering Capital Improvement Program report with the Council expressing his displeasure that the process of his working with VIEW Engineering (as requested by the Council), had been disrupted, and that he had not been included in the decision to do so.

Councilmember Wegner **MOVED**

That the Council authorize Peter Benjamin, if willing, to complete the task of working with VIEW Engineering to deliver to the Town of Garrett Park a satisfactory final report on the Town's capital assets and how best to maintain those assets. The Council would like for Peter Benjamin to do so without interference, and to work to target a completion date of January 30th, 2008. Councilmember Hansen seconded the motion.

After extended discussion, Councilmember Wegner **MOVED**

The previous question. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mandel and **PASSED** with Councilmembers Hansen, Irons, Mandel, and Wegner voting 'Aye,' and Councilmember Berry voting 'Nay.'

The previous question having passed the vote moved to the motion on the floor, which **PASSED**, with Councilmembers Hansen, Irons, Mandel, and Wegner voting 'Aye,' and Councilmember Berry voting 'Nay.'

Committee Reports:

- Arts Display Committee - Jane Salomon updated the Council on the activities of the committee, and reviewed the original Council resolution (attached to these minutes).

After discussion, Councilmember Irons **MOVED**

That the initial Council resolution of April 2005 be amended to provide that the Arts Display Committee shall have a minimum of three members. Councilmember Wegner seconded the motion, which **PASSED** unanimously.

Mayor Shawaker reported that she would like to appointed two more members to the committee; Martha Siegel and Burt Zbar. The Council agreed without objection.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Shawaker reported the she and Councilmember Wegner had met with representatives from M-NCPPC and the Garrett Park Nursery School to discuss the future of the Garrett Park Recreation Center.

- The Mayor reported that the new website was 80% completed and that she was working with Martin Trocki on its completion. Training sessions for Town staff should take place in early January.
- The Mayor appointed Councilmember Wegner Acting Mayor from January 1st through January 10th.

Approval of Minutes:

- Councilmember Hansen **MOVED**
That the minutes of the 11/01/2007 Special Council Meeting (Roads repair contract award) be approved as distributed. Councilmember Berry seconded the motion, which **PASSED** unanimously.
- Councilmember Mandel **MOVED**
That the minutes of the 11/12/2007 ~~Special~~ Regular Council Meeting be approved as distributed. Councilmember Wegner seconded the motion, which **PASSED** unanimously.

Councilmember's Reports:

- Councilmember Berry reported that the Parks & Open Space Committee had met the previous Saturday and had discussed upgrading playground equipment in Cambria Park and possible improvements to Garrett-Waverly Park
- Councilmember Hansen reported that the Arboretum Committee was meeting in early January and that the Rights of Way Committee was meeting the following Tuesday.
- Councilmember Wegner reported that the Cambria Park project would be incorporated into the existing NZI Construction Contract for roads rehabilitation. He also reported that SHA was going to make the final tree replacements along Strathmore in the next week, and that SHA responsibility for the landscaping ends on 12/31/2007.

Action/Discussion 2:

- Town Records Policy – Mayor Shawaker informed the Council that copies of College Park's policies would be circulated, and she asked that Councilmembers review then and be prepared to discuss possible Garret Park policies at the January meeting.
- VIEW Eng. Proposal for Cambria/Keswick Project Services – Mayor Shawaker noted that with the planned inclusion of the Cambria Park project into the NZI Contract it would be necessary to expand VIEW Engineering's oversight and engineering activities, and asked that the Council authorize her to negotiate with VIEW on the proposals to amend the Cambria Park Improvements agreement.
Councilmember Berry **MOVED**
That the Mayor be authorized to negotiate amendment #1 to the Cambria Park Improvements agreement with VIEW Engineering.
Councilmember Wegner seconded the motion, which **PASSED** with

Councilmembers Berry, Hansen, Mandel, and Wegner voting 'Aye,' and Councilmember Irons abstaining.

Councilmember Berry **MOVED**

That the Mayor be authorized to negotiate amendment #2 to the Cambria Park Improvements agreement with VIEW Engineering.

Councilmember Wegner seconded the motion, which **PASSED** unanimously.

- Installation of Electric Eyes in Penn Place Elevator Door – Administrator Pratt reported that due to a number of problems with the existing elevator door closer, Century Elevator had proposed replacing it with an electric eye closer at a cost of \$1,650.

Councilmember Berry **MOVED**

That the Council approves the expenditure of \$1,650 to replace the Penn Place elevator door closer with an electric eye closer. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hansen and **PASSED** unanimously.

Town Administrator Report:

- Monthly Financial Report - Administrator Pratt reviewed the monthly financial report with the Council.
- Update on Audit – Administrator Pratt reported that the FY 2007 Audit was complete and that copies had been distributed to the Council and Mayor.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

[TOWN SEAL]

Edwin Pratt, Jr., Clerk